

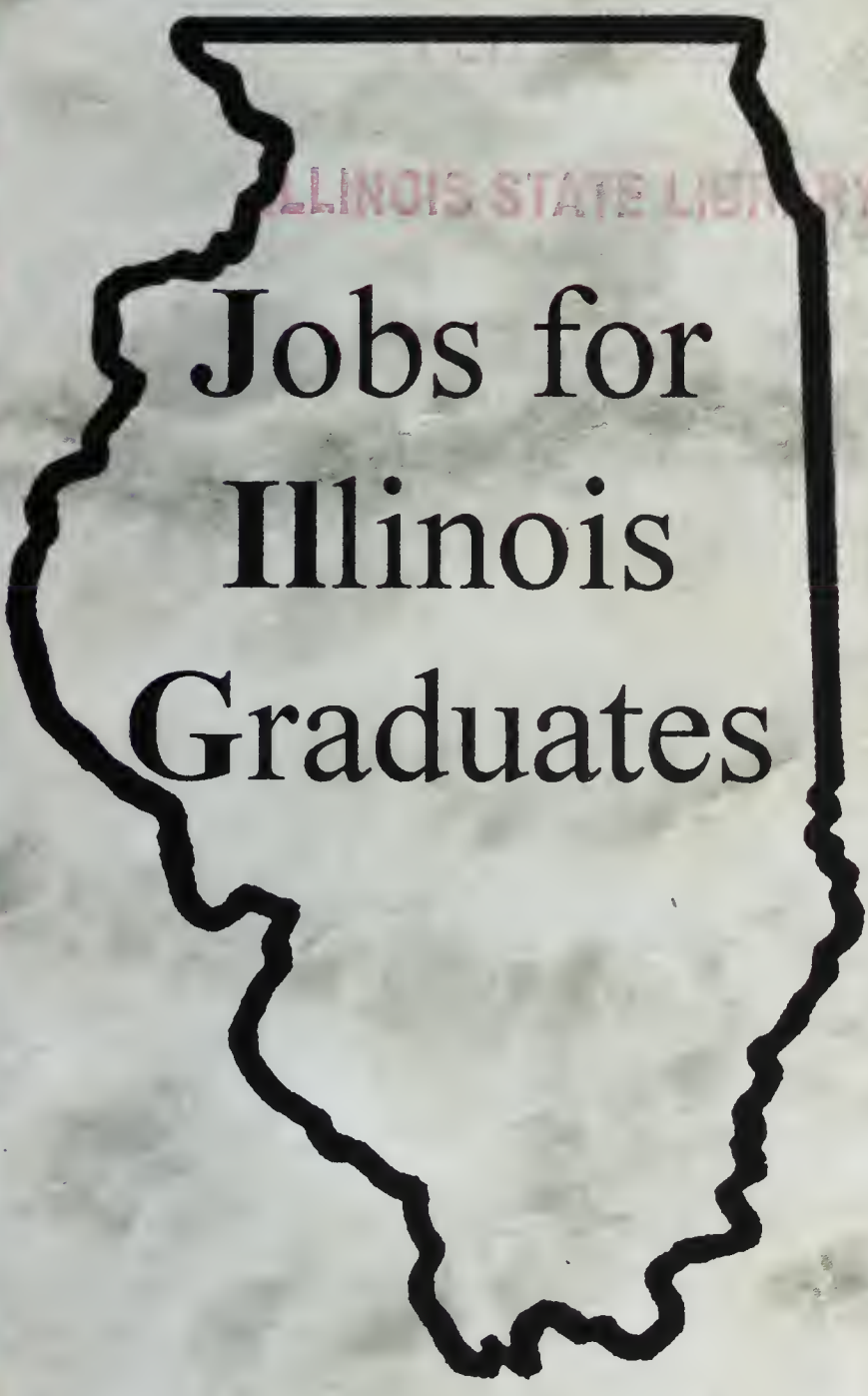
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# JILG

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## Jobs for Illinois Graduates

**A Comprehensive  
Education-to-Careers  
Program**

## Jobs for Illinois Graduates

JILG was established in July 1996 and is designed to help Illinois' young people at risk of underemployment and unemployment make the transition from school to work. As an affiliate of the national organization, Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG), JILG is required to adopt model program components and program standards such as:

- ⇒ *Targeting high school seniors* who are at the greatest risk of dropping out of high school and who will need assistance in the transition from school to work;
- ⇒ *Employing Career Specialists* who are responsible for aiding young people in the areas of graduation from high school; identification of and placement in jobs; and securing raises or promotions within twelve months of placement;
- ⇒ *Using an oversight board* whose members include key leaders of business, government, education, labor and the community;
- ⇒ *Training students* on employability skills based in JAG's core competencies;
- ⇒ *Ensuring successful placement* upon graduation which includes entry into a job, the military, and/or a postsecondary training program; and
- ⇒ *Providing continued support and follow-up* for graduates and non-graduates for a period of twelve months following their senior year.

## National Program Results

- ◆ 90% complete high school within nine months of the normal school departure time.
- ◆ 80% at the end of nine months are either:
  - ◇ on the job;
  - ◇ enrolled in postsecondary training;
  - ◇ enlisted in the military; or
  - ◇ involved in a combination of the three.
- ◆ Opportunity for employment is increased by 30% for this particular group of young people.
- ◆ The cost is merely \$1,100 per participant for 18 months of comprehensive services.
- ◆ Within 14 months in taxes paid alone, employed JAG graduates more than repay the cost of their participation in the program.

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*"The future economic security of millions of America's young people depends upon our ability to rapidly spread the success of programs like JAG in every state."*      **President Bill Clinton**

*"The students, the schools, the community and the Jobs for Illinois Graduates programs all benefit because the programs build bridges to local programs."*      **Governor Jim Edgar**

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## Key Program Elements

- ◆ Highly motivational student-led organization: JILG Career Association
- ◆ 30 employment competencies identified by the business community
- ◆ Pre- and post-tests of employability competencies
- ◆ Employability skills/career preparation curriculum
- ◆ Help with overcoming social/academic/other barriers that affect school success
- ◆ Ongoing tracking/research and reporting in outcomes at every step
- ◆ Intensive, one-on-one job development with Career Specialists
- ◆ A full twelve months of follow-up and support on the job after leaving school
- ◆ Accountability of each Career Specialist for 30 to 40 selected seniors in the high school



## Who benefits from JILG?

### JILG benefits *businesses* by...

- ⇒ enlarging the qualified entry-level labor pool
- ⇒ providing motivated workers
- ⇒ supplying employees with better work habits

### JILG *students* gain...

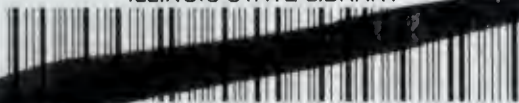
- ⇒ motivation to graduate and begin a career
- ⇒ assistance in securing a good job
- ⇒ tools to succeed on the job
- ⇒ skills for long-term career growth

### JILG helps *communities* and *schools*...

- ⇒ lower unemployment
- ⇒ raise graduation rates
- ⇒ produce citizens who make positive contributions to society



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